

## REMARKS

Careful consideration has been given by the applicant to the Examiner's comments and rejection of the claims, as set forth in the outstanding Office Action, and favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application, as amended, is earnestly solicited.

Applicant notes the Examiner's renewed rejection of the claims in view of new grounds, wherein Claims 1-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Goldstein, U.S. Patent No. 6,448,571 in view of Jacobson, U.S. Patent No. 5,379,332, as detailed in the Office Action.

However, upon careful consideration of this newly cited art, applicant respectfully submits that the claims, as amended herein, are clearly and unambiguously directed to allowable subject matter. In connection with the foregoing, and in order to place the application into substantial order for allowance, applicant has cancelled Claim 3 without prejudice or disclaimer, and incorporated the limitations thereof into Claim 1. This, in effect, sets forth that the length of the cover with the screening element arranged therein can be turned up in at least one direction and fixed in a turned-up arrangement through the intermediary of a fixing device. This enables the length of the radiation protection arrangement to be altered through the turning up of the cover with the screening elements contained therein by means of this fixing device.

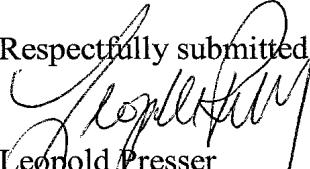
The foregoing structure imparts a utility and function to the entire radiation protection arrangement, which is in no manner disclosed nor even remotely suggested by the prior art. Neither of the cited publications, in effect, Goldstein or Jacobson, irrespective as to whether considered singly or in combination, describe screening elements which are of an alterable length so that the entire radiation protection arrangement can be utilized in versatile and differential modes not at all capable of being implemented in the prior art.

Consequently, Claim 1, which now incorporates the subject matter of Claim 3, and dependent Claims 2 and 4-18 are also deemed to be directed to allowable subject matter in their dependence upon the amended Claim 1.

Furthermore, with regard to the structure and function of the cover for the screening element, as set forth in Claims 19-24, this also pertains to the use thereof in a radiation protection arrangement, which is not in any manner disclosed in the art, inasmuch as the cover can be readily constructed so as to be pulled over the screening element and completely separated therefrom, so as to be either washable or replaceable by another cover and/or a screening element contained therein.

In view of the foregoing comments and amendments, and wherein the Examiner, during a previous telephone conference with applicant's attorney, indicated allowability of at least some of the claims, applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1 as amended herein, and the claims dependent therefrom, including the remaining claims directed to the cover construction, are all deemed to be in condition for allowance, and the early and favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application by the Examiner is earnestly solicited.

However, inasmuch as the Examiner has already previously indicated the possibility of allowance of the application, in the event that the Examiner has any queries concerning the instantly submitted Amendment, applicant's attorney respectfully requests that he be accorded the courtesy of possibly a telephone conference to discuss any matters in need of attention.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
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